

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6579
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
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JERUSALEM FOR USDEL

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, SY, EG, IS, US
SUBJ: SYRIAN MEDIA SCORNS SADAT'S SPEECH: SEES CONTINUATION OF
"POLICY OF CAPUTULATION"

1. SYRIAN MEDIA IS GLOATING OVER SADAT'S "FAILURE" IN
"WE TOLD YOU SO" TOME. SADAT ACCUSED OF MAKING A TACTICLA MOVE
DESIGNED TO COAX THE US TO PRESSURE ISRAEL. EDITORIALS SCORNE
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HIS FAITH IN THE US AND TOOK POSITION THAT US IS UNWILLING TO
PRESSURE ISRAEL. THEY VIEWED SADAT AS HAVING NO CHOICE BUT TO
CONTINUE HIS POLICY TO ITS LOGICAL CONCLUSION (PARTIAL
SETTLEMENT).

2. AL-BAATH EDITORIAL OF JAN 22 FOLLOWING SADAT'S SPEECH
TO EGYPTIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, NOTED THAT THE RESULTS OF HIS

INITIATIVE "ARE THE RESULTS WE EXPECTED AND AGAINST WHICH WE CAUTIONED TIME AFTER TIME." SADAT IS SAID TO ADHERE TO HIS COMMITMENT TO "CAPITULATION" AT PRESIDENT CARTER'S BEHEST. SADAT WAS ATTACKED FOR SCORNING CAPABILITY OF ARAB ARMS WHICH "CAN GUARANTEE VICTORY FOR OUR PEOPLE..." THAWRA OF SAME DAY SAID HE WOULD HAVE SALVAGED PART OF HIS HONOR HAD HE RESIGNED BUT ASSERTED "THAT THE PERSISTS OF UNVAILING THE OTHER ASPECTS OF HIS BETRAYAL AND HIS LINKS WITH THE IMPERIALIST-ZIONIST SCHEME DESIGNED TO REALIZE CONTROL OVER THIS REGION AND THE WORLD." HIS PULLOUT FROM THE TALKS IS CAHRACTERIZED AS BEIGN DESIGNED TO ALLOW THE US TO BE THE "SAVIOR OF EGYPT'S PEOPLE." COLUMNIST HUFFED THAT SADAT LIED WHEN HE DISCUSSED SYRIA'S STAND ON THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO PERSUADE THE PEOPLE THAT HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO "CARRIES THE BANNER OF PEACE". TISHRIIN SCORED SADAT FOR TRYING TO SOLVE THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM ON THE BASIS OF THEIR PARTICIPATION RATHER THAN THROUGH INSISTING ON PLO PARTICIAPTION AND SELF-DETERMINATION. THIS SEEN AS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN FOR ISRAELI-SUPERVISED SELF-RULE RETHER THAN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE.

3. EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARIES OF JAN 23 CONTINUED TO EXPAND THESE ATTACKS. AL-BAATH CAHRGED THAT SADAT, IN ORDER NOT TO BE ACCUSED OF SEEKING A SEPARATE SETTLEMENT, HAS INTRODUCED THE THEME OF WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SYRIAN GOLAN. HIS CONCERN IS DESCRIBED AS PHONY SINCE IT "IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE ROLE HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VISUALIZES OF GOING BEYOND SMALL DEALS TO A WIDER SCHEME...TO UNDERTAKE THE ROLE OF GUARDIAN OF THE INTERESTS OF THE SUPER-POWER." COLUMNIST REMINEDE SADAT THAT HE COULD NOT ACT BY PROXY FOR THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION.

4. A "NEWS ANALYSIS" JAN 23 ALSO APPEARED IN AL-BAATH WHICH WENT WELL BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF THESE EDITORIALS IN ATTACKING US AND SADAT. CAPTIONED: "THE EGYPTIAN MAN IN THE STREET: 'SYRIA WAS RITHT.' HOW THE US FOILED THE EFFORTS FOR A JUST PEACE," IT CLAIMED THAT SADAT HAS RECALLED HIS NEGOTIATING TEAM IN THE HOPES OF STIMULATING US PRESSURE AGAINST ISRAEL. WRITHER ASSERTED THAT US AND ISRAELI ANALYSTS WERE CONVINCED THAT SADAT HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO CONTINUE THE POLICIES HE HAD RUSHED INTO AND RHUS, THE US WOULD PRESSURE EGYPT NOT ISRAEL. RECENT US STATEMENTS ARE SEEN TO AFFIRM THIS BECUASE THEY IGNOR THE PLO. IT CONCLUDED THAT THE ARABS COULD ONLY RECOVER THEIR LAND BY MEANS OF WAR AND TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE THE CONFRONTATION STATE WERE "WAGERING ON THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE DISGORING HER DEFEATIST RULERS." MURPHY

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